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May 9, 2006

Page 1 of 2

Docket No.: AXIAMD.006A

Please Direct All Correspondence to Customer Number 20995

### REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

Applicant : Andrew H. Cragg et al.  
App. No : 09/782,534  
Filed : February 13, 2001  
For : APPARATUS FOR PERFORMING A  
DISCECTOMY THROUGH A TRANS-  
SACRAL AXIAL BORE WITHIN THE  
VERTEBRAE OF THE SPINE  
Examiner : Ali B. Shumaya  
Art Unit : 3743

#### CERTIFICATE OF FAX TRANSMISSION PTO CENTRALIZED FAX

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all  
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May 9, 2006

(Date)

Total number of pages including this sheet: 14

*Gerard von Hoffmann*  
Gerard von Hoffmann, Reg. No. 33,043

#### Mail Stop RCE

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This Request for Continued Examination (RCE) is being made as follows:

1. Submission Required under 37 CFR 1.114:

(X) Enclosed:

(X) Amendment/Reply in 12 pages.

2. Fees:

The present application qualifies for Small Entity Status under 37 CFR 1.27.

FEE CALCULATION				
FEE TYPE		FEE CODE	CALCULATION	TOTAL
RCE Fee		2801 (\$395)		\$395
3 Month Extension		2253 (\$510)	Previously paid 2 month extension (\$225) on 4/4/06 additional extension fees due (\$510 - \$225 = 285)	\$285
			<b>TOTAL FEE DUE</b>	<b>\$680</b>

(X) An extension of time is hereby requested by payment of the appropriate fee indicated  
above.

05/10/2006 HGUTEMR1 00000036 111410 09782534

01 FC:2801 395.00 DA  
02 FC:2253 285.00 DA

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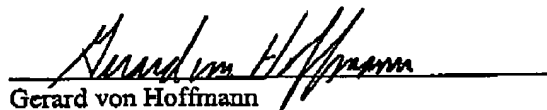
3. Payment:

- (X) The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the above-itemized fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, to Deposit Account Number 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE MARTENS OLSON & BEAR LLP

Dated: May 9, 2006



Gerard von Hoffmann

Registration No. 33,043

Attorney of Record

Customer No. 20,995

(949) 760-0404

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